

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ORM-03 SR-02 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01

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R 191256Z JUL 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0813

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

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UNCLAS ALGIERS 1578

1. ARAFAT ARRIVED IN ALGIERS EVENING JULY 17 AND
SAW PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE NEXT DAY.

2. JULY 19 EL MOUDJAHID CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH
ARAFAT UNDER HEADLINE "ARAFAT DENIES THAT PALESTINIAN
REVOLUTION HAS HAD CONTACTS WITH WASHINGTON." IN
IT, ARAFAT DECLINED TO COMMENT ON HUSSEIN-SADAT
TALKS IN CAIRO BUT ADMITTED HE HAD RECEIVED OFFICIAL
INVITATION FROM SADAT TO VISIT CAIRO IN ORDER TO
DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVING PALESTINIAN-
JORDANIAN RELATIONS. IN REPLY TO QUESTION WHETHER
PLO WOULD TAKE PART IN ARAB MINI-SUMMIT WITH SYRIA,
EGYPT AND JORDAN HE SAID THAT SINCE NO PARTY HAD AS YET
SPOKEN TO HIM ABOUT THIS SUMMIT HE COULD MAKE NO
OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

3. ASKED ABOUT RECENT ISRAELI STATEMENTS REGARDING
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PALESTINIAN QUESTION, ARAFAT FIRST RECALLED THAT

PRIMIN RABIN CONTINUED TO REJECT ANY ROLE FOR PALESTINE, THEN SPOKE OF YARIV STATEMENT AND OTHERS AS PROVING THAT PALESTINIAN REVOLUTIN HAD SUCCEEDED IN IMPOSING EXISTENCE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ON ITS ENEMIES.

4. IN REPLY TO QUESTION WHETHER AMERICANS HAD HAD CONTACT WITH PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE LEADERS, ARAFAT SAID, "PERSONALLY, I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY. REMEMBER THAT I AM SPEAKING IN NAME OF PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION AND I REPEAT I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY."

5. CONFIRMING THAT HE WOULD SOON VISIT SOVIET UNION AT BREZHNEV'S INVITATION, ARAFAT SAID "THERE EXISTS AN IDENTITY OF VIEW REGARDING OBJECTIVES FIXED BY PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND POSITION OF SOVIET UNION."

6. ON SYPRUS, ARAFAT SAID PLO WAS WITH PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AND CYPRIOT PEOPLE. THEN CONCLUDING INTERVIEW HE THANKED ALGERIA FOR ITS CONTINUOUS SUPPORT AND RECALLED SAYING OF ALGERIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO EFFECT THAT THEY COULD NOT CONSIDER ALGERIA TRULY FREE SO LONG AS PALESTINE REMAINED UNDER OCCUPATION.

7. IN SEPARATE INTERVIEW WITH ALGERIAN PRESS SERVICE, ARAFAT COVERED SAME GROUND AND ADDED ONE QUESTION REGARDING US POSITION, "US HAS NOT CHANGED ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. AMERICA CONTINUES TO VIEW SOLUTION TO PALESTINIAN QUESTION UNREALISTICALLY. UP TO THIS TIME US HAS NOT RECOGNIZED RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE BUT HAS SPOKEN ONLY OF 'INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIANS.'" THERE IS SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BEWTEEN RIGHTS AND INTERESTS, AND THEREFORE WE BELIEVE US MUST STATE ITS POSITION FRANKLY AND CLEARLY WITH REGARD TO OUR CAUSE."SIMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, PERSONAL OPINION, VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ALGIER01578
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740195-0069
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740736/aaaabeio.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: OVIP, PINS, XF, AG, (ARAFAT, YASSER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005